

our share in helping throughout this world. We are grateful for leaders from other countries who are here and pray Thy blessing upon them. Once again, we ask you to bless our President and Vice President and the leaders of this country. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen."

Mr. INHOFE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Nebraska.

RUSSIA AND CHINA

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, Ukraine's struggle against Russia's invasion has reminded Americans that, sometimes, the world divides into good and evil and into heroes and villains. Not always. There are many fights that are not like that, and we just stupidly talk like it. Debates about marginal tax policy are not good versus evil or heroes versus villains; but, sometimes, fights are heroes versus villains.

Heroes are men and women who love their country and who love their freedom and who want to pass along freedom to the next generation, but they are also people who believe in freedom more broadly. Heroes are people who believe that we were created in the image of God and that everyone has unalienable rights: the rights to life, liberty, speech, religion, assembly, protest. These are pre-governmental rights. Governments don't give us these rights; we are endowed with these rights by nature and nature's Creator. Heroes recognize this not only about themselves and their own countrymen and -women but about everybody. Zelenskyy is such a hero.

The villains are tyrants. They are people who want to oppress others, who want to hold them down. They want to take freedom from their countrymen but also from their neighbors. They are people who seek power at the expense of the weak. Putin is such a villain.

But there is another villain in this drama, a villain who isn't getting nearly enough attention, and he is Chairman Xi, the dictator in China. His Chinese Communist Party has enabled him to do all sorts of oppressive things against men and women in his country. We know what is happening in Xinjiang—there is actually a genocide happening against the Uighurs in our time—but Xi is doing more than just oppressing people at home.

A hundred years from now, when the history of the Russian invasion of Ukraine is written, assuming that it isn't written as Chinese propaganda, I am confident that the public will have a much clearer understanding of the way that Xi and Putin have worked together and have worked together closely. We can't talk here about everything we know in the Intelligence Committee, but I am confident that, when the history is written, the American people and the people of the world will see Xi and Putin as having worked hand in hand, side by side.

Americans should understand this today: Chairman Xi is not indifferent about Ukraine. He is on Putin's side,

and he has supported Putin's unprovoked war.

The situation in Ukraine reminds us of a pretty good rule for 21st century foreign policy, and it is this: The Chinese Communist Party is almost always on the wrong side of freedom and human dignity.

The CCP and the United States are in the middle of a global conflict of visions. It is important for us in this Chamber not to say "the United States and China" as if we mean 330 million Americans and 1.4 billion Chinese are locked in a battle; but the U.S. vision, the American idea, is in conflict with the vision of the Chinese Communist Party and the ways that they want to oppress not just their neighbors but their own citizens. The CCP and the U.S. are locked in a global conflict of visions, and that is true whether DC politicians want to admit it every day or not, and sometimes it seems convenient for folks not to admit it.

It is the free peoples of the world—NATO allies, Ukrainians, and other freedom lovers—who are fighting against a handful of totalitarian regimes—chiefly, Putin's Russia and Xi's Chinese Communist Party. These are the folks who are terrorizing not just their own people but their neighbors. This contest is a contest between liberty and tyranny. Not every fight is, but this one is; and you had damned well better believe that the tyrants are working together strategically and intentionally to undermine freedom.

So let's back up to February 4.

The Winter Olympics had just begun, and Vladimir Putin was in China to visit Chairman Xi. Together, they released what they called a "joint statement" announcing a new partnership with "no limits." The Xi-Putin statement said there would be no limits in their partnership against the United States. They promised that they would work together to promote each other's economic and national security interests even as Putin was amassing forces on the border of Ukraine and preparing for his invasion. Xi was not unaware of what Putin was planning when he released and signed the "no limits" statement.

Here is why this is strange: Historically, Russia and China have not been friends. For centuries, these two countries have clashed with one another. During the Cold War, not even shared communist ideology could unite China and Russia for very long. The CCP studied the collapse of the Soviet Union to learn how to keep a communist regime afloat, and they have been very adept at using new technologies not to advance human freedom but to squash human freedom. Now, though, the historic rivals have found something they have in common. Both Putin and Xi hate the United States and hate, most fundamentally, our ideas of the dignity of every individual having been created in the image of God.

Let's do a little geography.

Russia and China share nearly 3,000 miles of common border. Russia is a giant. It has 11 time zones. Think about that. If you look at your globe of the world and spin it all the way around, you will get 24 time zones. Russia spans 11 of them. Russia is about 11 percent of the area of land on Earth. There are 5 countries that have about 6 percent: China is one; the U.S. is one; Canada is one—and India. So Russia has 11 percent, and 5 countries have about 6 percent. No other country has more than about 2 percent of the land mass of Earth.

The Russian-Chinese border has historically been complicated because they haven't gotten along, but as he planned to launch his wicked invasion of Ukraine, Putin needed to move troops and materiel all the way from the border with China in the East back into Europe in the West. And he couldn't do that—he couldn't leave this giant border unguarded—unless Chairman Xi said: We don't have any problems right now. And that is exactly what happened. Xi agreed that he would be on the same page with Putin as Putin took all of his troops and all of his materiel back from this historically contested border to use against the free people of Ukraine.

From the beginning of this crisis, Chairman Xi has been in lockstep with Putin. The New York Times writes in some impressive reporting that Xi even asked Putin to delay the invasion until after the Olympics ended, which Putin ultimately did.

One of the biggest ways China has supported Russia through all of this is by amplifying Russian lies and propaganda about the war. Chinese Communist Party propagandists, such as Wang Yi, have done everything from blaming the United States and NATO for the war to playing up Russia's unrealistic security demands, to echoing lies about Ukrainian biolabs.

Xi's henchmen and CCP-controlled state media have always been there to amplify Putin's falsehoods. Some of the stuff Putin is saying at home is laughably absurd even to the hosts of state TV, who are paid to read these scripts. Yet Xi has been willing to take all of it, translate it into Mandarin, and pump it into China to make sure the people in China don't have an accurate understanding of what is happening between Russia and Ukraine. The CCP's state media have been trying to tell the world repeated untrue stories about Russia, and they now cover up the atrocities and horrors that have been committed by Russian troops against Ukrainian civilians.

The propagandizing is obviously despicable, but the diplomatic support the CCP is providing Russia is even more dangerous. Through the COVID pandemic, we saw how China tried to manipulate international organizations like the WHO to promote their own narrative and to bully other countries. During the invasion of Ukraine, they have done the same thing on behalf of Putin.

The Chinese foreign ministry has participated in the consistent spreading of lies about the war through and to other international organizations.

At the U.N., Chinese diplomats have worked tirelessly to provide cover for Russian crimes and to enable Putin's invasion. They have spurned the pleas of Ukraine and other European countries to try to help restore the peace.

And just a couple of weeks ago, China's vice minister met with the Russian Ambassador to announce the regimes will "continue to strengthen strategic coordination with Russia." Statements like these have become characteristic of the twisted friendship that has developed between these two aggressor nations and what they call their "no-limits friendship."

China has also attempted to bail out Russia and to save their economy from the crippling sanctions that we and our allies have imposed since the beginning of this invasion. As soon as the sanctions were imposed, Chinese banks were looking for work-arounds so they could keep doing business with Russia, partly for their own interests but largely to help stabilize and subsidize Russia.

Russian banks issued Chinese UnionPay cards, after Visa and Mastercard pulled out of the country, and ordered Chinese currency savings accounts. China was already in the currency manipulation business, but since February, they have been using their talents not just to prop up their own currency but also to keep the ruble from flaming out. And while other free countries have begun shunning Russia's energy sector, China's state-owned energy companies have continued to conduct what they call "normal trading cooperation" with Russia, looking for ways to expand and eat up more of the Russian supply.

But China hasn't only been supporting Putin indirectly. Chairman Xi has also aided Putin's invasion of Ukraine directly. The Times of London reported at the beginning of April that China launched a massive cyber attack on Kyiv mere days before Putin invaded. Think about that. The Chinese Government was involved in a cyber attack against free Ukraine to help Russia.

As the Russian army has struggled, Putin has asked Xi for direct military assistance, and Xi is reportedly deliberating about how he can do more, hoping the international community won't notice. We should notice. We should amplify what Xi is doing. He is aiding and abetting Russia's war crimes against civilians.

Here is the fact: Putin and Xi are tied at the hip. China regularly claims that it stands for the principles of state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and noninterference in domestic affairs. Yet China has supported and provided diplomatic cover for Russia's illegal, immoral, and unprovoked war against Ukraine every step of the way. Now there is the chance that Team

Zelenskyy could win, and so what has Xi done in response? He has decided to convene meetings to figure out how he can amp up support for Putin.

We should be asking ourselves: Why is Chairman Xi so supportive of this invasion? Part of the reason is because Vladimir Putin is running a scout team offense for Chairman Xi's eventual planned invasion of Taiwan. Xi wants to learn everything he can about how democracies and free peoples will respond and how democracies defend themselves so that he can try to develop strategies to beat us and to beat our allies.

Xi also wants Putin to win because he thinks this will demoralize Taiwan and the rest of the free world. He wants to be able to tell a story where the age of America, where the age of freedom is over. Xi wants to plunge the globe into a new dark age—an age of surveillance state totalitarianism. And step one at this moment is destroying the friends of Ukraine.

We shouldn't deceive ourselves. What we are seeing in Ukraine is a contest between freedom and tyranny. It is not in our national interest to see the tyrants triumph. We need to show the world that the forces arrayed by Putin and Xi cannot defeat the bravery of men and women who want to live free and who believe in freedom.

Zelenskyy and Ukraine's heroes have a chance to smash the new Russia-China axis, but they need our support. Standing up to Putin and helping Ukraine is important for its own sake, but it is also important because this is the opening skirmish in a larger confrontation between tyranny and liberty, between Chinese communists and the American idea.

Will the United States continue to lead the world toward peace and freedom, or will tyrant Xi and his CCP have the chance to impose their totalitarianism on weaker countries around the Pacific?

Today in Ukraine, it is easy to see the line between good and evil, and that is why it is time for us to step up, to help Ukraine, but also to tell the world who Chairman Xi is, what he believes, what he has done on Putin's behalf, and why he is on Putin's side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, Justice Alito's draft opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* is a masterpiece of jurisprudence, and it is a long overdue victory for the preborn. It is also a vindication of nearly 50 years of tireless efforts by the pro-life movement, the conservative legal movement, by textualists and originalists, and by President Trump's recent judicial appointments.

I am proud to say that this decision vindicates the efforts of people like my late father, who wrote an amicus brief in *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*.

Incidentally, it was in that context when I first had an encounter with in-

dividuals on the opposite side of this issue. I was 11 years old when my father submitted that amicus brief while serving as President Reagan's Solicitor General.

One morning, a busload of pro-abortion rights protesters showed up outside of our home. My parents and my siblings were out running errands, going about various activities. I found myself alone that morning. I went outside to talk to the people who had shown up in our quiet suburban neighborhood in a Greyhound-size bus carrying signs and shouting slogans of one sort or another.

I introduced myself to the woman who appeared to be in charge. Her first words startled me. She said: Well, hello, little boy. We are not here to hurt you.

I thought that was strange. It ought to go without saying. It is a little alarming when that is the first thing someone says to you. I asked her what she was doing. She told me that they were there because they disagreed with some things that my father had submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States in that amicus brief to which I referred.

I then asked the question: Why do you have to do it on my lawn? She responded in a way that I found curious. She said: Well, we are trying very hard not to step on your lawn. We are actually staying on the sidewalk.

I didn't yet understand the difference between an easement and a walkway and whether they had entered onto the curtilage of our home. All I knew was that it seemed like a strange place to be doing this, in front of a private residence, a home where a public official lived and slept and raised his children.

I think about the tireless efforts of people like my late father to stand up for the rights of unborn human beings and for the injustice brought about by *Roe v. Wade*—a 1973 decision by the Supreme Court that stripped power away from the American people, stripped their opportunity to make decisions regarding abortion at the appropriate level of government, to have those decisions made by their own elected lawmakers rather than by unelected, unaccountable Judges who had arrogated to themselves the almost exclusive prerogative to decide how, when, whether, to what extent abortions may be regulated.

What lies before the Supreme Court is the test of weathering the storm of political opinion. The line has been drawn, and *Roe v. Wade* appears to be on the verge of being overturned. Should this draft opinion become the official holding of the Court, Americans will, once again, have the opportunity to debate and discuss these issues with the American people each deciding, within their respective State, what terms and conditions ought to apply, what restrictions ought to be imposed to protect human life.

This should give us all hope that America is not doomed to decline. All